



MEDIA ADVISORY

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**U.S.VETS HOLDS 4TH ANNUAL LONG BEACH "HONORING THOSE WHO SERVE" LUNCHEON TO
GENERATE CRITICAL SUPPORT FOR LOCAL HOMELESS & AT-RISK VETERANS**

LONG BEACH, CA (Oct. 20, 2011) -- The United States Veterans Initiative (U.S.VETS) site in Long Beach is hosting its fourth annual "Honoring Those Who Serve" Luncheon in honor of Veterans Day on Friday November 4, 2011 at the Long Beach Hilton.

Funds raised from this event will ensure that assistance is available to veterans in need in the Long Beach community. U.S.VETS-Long Beach provides housing, employment, counseling, and other supportive services to more than 550 veterans and their families each day.

The luncheon will feature WWII Pilot and POW, Louis Zamperini as the keynote speaker. Zamperini's harrowing experience of combat and survival was most recently chronicled by Pulitzer Prize winning Author, Laura Hillenbrand in the book, "Unbroken." He will share his life story with luncheon guests: his challenges, his will to live, and the people who helped him along the way.

Receiving special recognition as the luncheon honoree is WWII, Korean War Veteran and Iwo Jima Survivor, Damaso Sutis. Sutis became a U.S. Marine at the height of WWII when he was 17. Just one year after enlisting, he found himself dodging gunfire on the beach of Iwo Jima. He retired after enduring three wars during his 24 years with the USMC. He currently serves the Coast Guard Auxiliary as ADSO-MS 11SR.

For more information about this event including ticket availability, sponsorship opportunities, and media access please visit www.usvetsinc.org or contact Linda Maldonado at 562-388-8015 or lmaldonado@usvetsinc.org.

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Please direct all media inquiries to Chelsea Cody at ccody@usvetsinc.org or (213) 542-2601.

About the United States Veterans Initiative

Founded in 1992, U.S.VETS is dedicated to the successful transition of military veterans and their families through the provision of housing, counseling, career development, and comprehensive support. With 12 locations in six states and Washington, D.C., U.S.VETS is the largest veteran-specific nonprofit housing and service provider in the country. Focused on assisting homeless and at-risk veteran and veteran families, U.S. VETS serves over 2,000 veterans each day. In a year, U.S.VETS will help 3,000 veterans find housing and over 1,000 veterans obtain full-time employment. To learn more, visit www.usvetsinc.org or follow on Twitter @USVETSINC, and like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/usvetsinc.